

Everlux® news

Evacuation Floor Plans



Evacuation Floor Plans

The "Risk Assessment" in a working environment is a careful analysis of what can cause damage to people so as to evaluate if the necessary precautions have been taken or if it is possible to improve them. The aim is to minimize or whenever possible to eliminate the risks that can put in danger the health of the users of the premises.



Everlux® Discs

Evacuation floor plans are the best means to communicate to the users of those premises what was planned in the Risk Assessment, by using a graphic and a schematic language (with pictures).





Large dimension/ high level signs


Evacuation floor plans are also intended to be a means of prevention and a complement to the safety signs, although in no circumstances will they be able to replace them.



editorial

Another year is coming to a close and it's time to take stock of what we have achieved and to analyse the results.



2007 was a very important year for  Everlux®: -a year of Firex, where once again we were present to support our clients and to promote photoluminescent safety signs; -we have presented a new catalogue, with lots of new products which will be highlighted in more detail in the forthcoming editions of this  Everlux® news .

We would like to mention two events for their innovation and importance: -The launch of our  Everlux® news , the third edition of which we are pleased to present to you now. This is a project that we consider of the utmost importance. -The event we hosted in Portugal between 27th and 30th

October, where we received our distributors in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland, over 30 companies and more than 60 people.

We organised for the first time a visit to our factory and a very detailed training session. Apart from a detailed presentation on the factory and of our organisation and production methods, we also provided a training session on General Principles of SWGS - Safety Way Guidance System; Technical Characteristics, Quality and Environment, both regarding the product and the production methods; a summary of the European and national legislation and Norms on Safety in general and Safety Signs in particular.

We also presented for the first time the " Everlux® Safety Sign Guide" an innovative guide in the area of Photoluminescent Safety Signs, aimed at our distributors and to all companies who work in the area of planning and execution of projects and safety systems, surveys, risk analysis, etc.

In brief, 2007 was a year full of news for  Everlux® and we do hope they have been enjoyed by all those who favour us with their custom. With our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and for a 2008 that will be... Brilliant! 

Large dimension / high level signs

What is the best height to install Safety Signs?

The answer to this question is not an immediate one.

To enable to answer this question it's necessary to know the type of building, as well as its activity or type of use, where the Safety Signs are going to be installed. If it's considering a building with headroom of less than 3 metres, the signs must be at a height of 2 metres above the floor (above the doors). But in large industrial units or warehouses signs must not be installed at a height of 2 metres, as obstacles may be in the way (machinery, shelving, etc.) which will obstruct their

visibility. In these cases signs must be installed at a higher level. Even then, only after details about the place and its characteristics have been analysed, could the most appropriate height for a Safety Sign be decided.

It's essential to guarantee that from any place being used by staff and guests, at least one sign will always be visible.



In the case of large industrial units, warehouses or exhibition centres signs must be located as high as possible so that

>Evacuation floor Plans

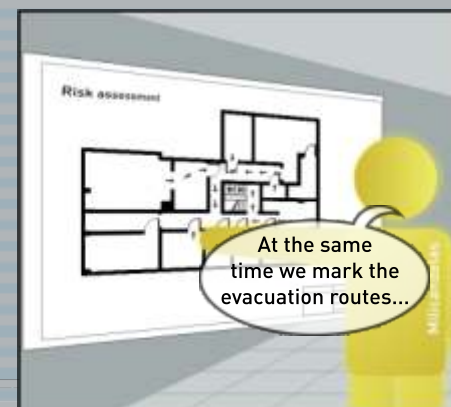


The first function of an evacuation floor plan is to show the user the layout of the premises where they are, as well as all the emergency equipment available and the evacuation routes to be used in case of an emergency. This will also be used to provide emergency teams with that same information in case of an accident.

Bearing in mind their function and the nature of the information they aim to provide, floor evacuation plans must be displayed near the access to the floors and in areas where people stand, for example near the entrances of buildings, near lift buttons, stair lobbies, in the accessing area to changing rooms, at the entrance to the canteens, etc.

All Norms, and in particular Safety Norms have been following a tendency to being standardised at a European and even global level. Evacuation floor plans are no exception and therefore it is recommended that the symbols to be used be those of the national and international Norms. These symbols are basically those used in the safety signs. This way, the user will be able to easily relate the information shown in the evacuation floor plans with that of the photoluminescent Safety Signs displayed in that location. >

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- any user can see them. This rule should be applied both to emergency exit signs and also signs showing the location of fire fighting equipment.

Only one final question remains: what should be the size of the signs to be installed?

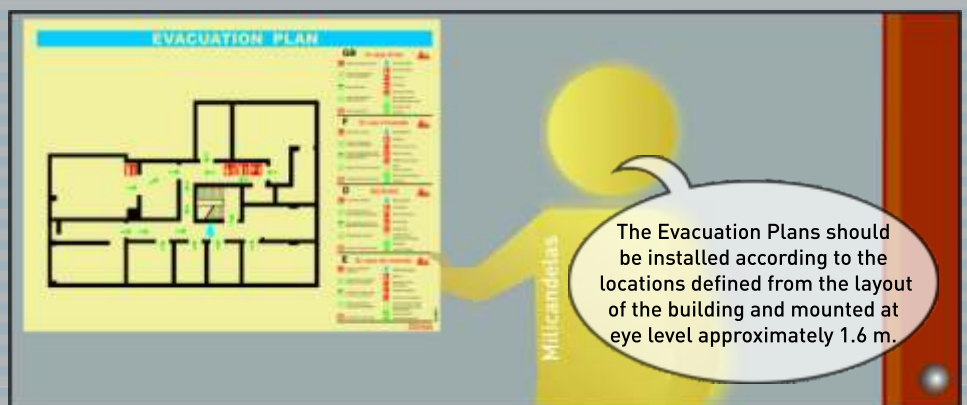
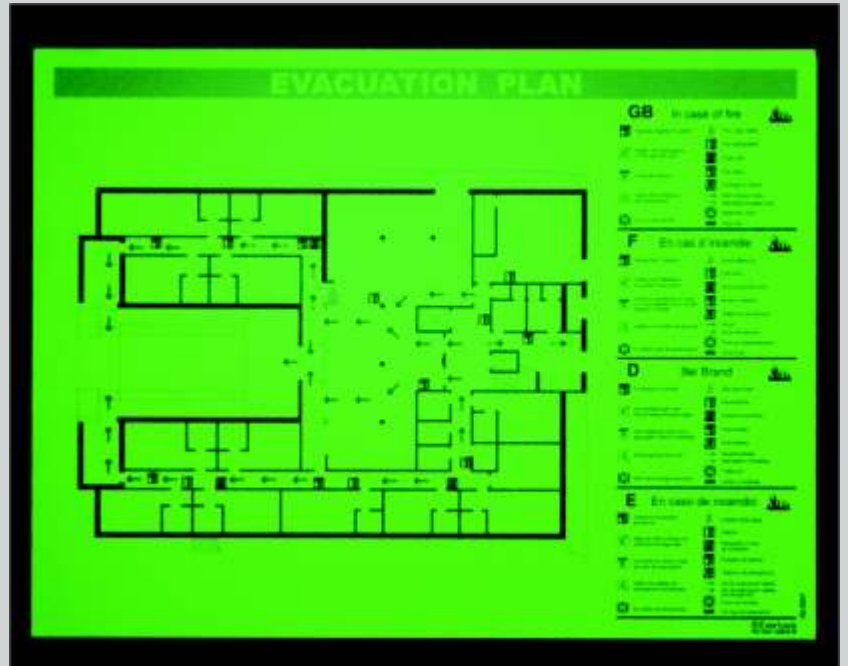
Also in this case, the answer, although easy, cannot be immediately given. The size of the signs should be adjusted to the maximum distance from where the sign has to be visible. If the sign need to be visible from a long distance then its size should also be the largest (please see page 13 of the catalogue); if it is to be visible from a shorter distance then

the sign should have a more reduced size (please see pages 9 to 12 of the catalogue).

To measure the correspondence between the distance of observation and the size of the signs we should consult Norm BS5499-4:2000 for escape route signs and Norm BS5499-1:2002 for signs other than escape routes. These will indicate the formula to be used. On page 6 of the catalogue, an explanation for this formula and a table with the size of the signs and the relative distances from where they should be visible is presented. ●



- The reason why evacuation floor plans must be photoluminescent is the same reason used for safety signs, that is, so that they remain visible even in conditions of complete darkness, for users and intervention brigades. ●



③ Everlux® Discs

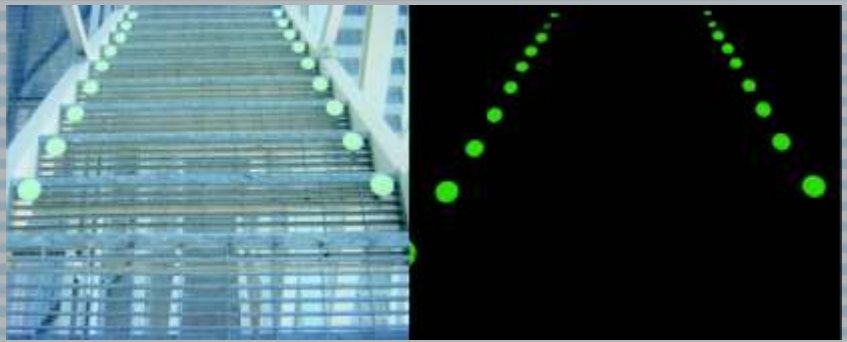
Low Location Lighting is compulsory in some countries for some types of buildings but it is already common practice in many other countries namely in places with higher risk and with their own specifications with regard to evacuation routes.

They are easily understood, as in case of fire, smoke has a tendency to rise therefore obstructing any lights or signs placed at a high or intermediate level (please see Everlux News No. 1)

In large spaces with no internal walls, it is complicated to show the evacuation routes with signs at floor level. For these situations Everlux has developed the Everlux discs which have the same photoluminescent capacity of the Everlux LLL products, that is, they guarantee a perfect signalling and visibility of the evacuation routes even in places of very weak light.

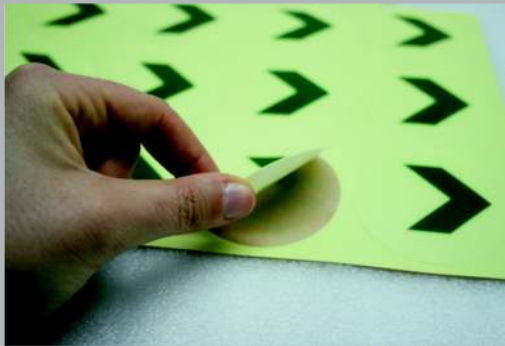
Floor level signs for metallic structures:

Given the amount of metallic structures present in industrial units, be it small elevated offices or a passage way (scaffolding, corridor and stairs), it has been developed the Everlux metallic disc. This is composed of a metallic circle with 60mm diameter with a 60mm screw and it is supplied with a nut and bolt allowing it to be fixed to metallic structures (stairs, scaffolding) with a grid up to 5cm.



Floor level signs labyrinthine places:

To show the evacuation route in areas with several obstacles and away from walls (machinery, display shelves, big warehouses, exhibition centres, etc) the best solution is the Everlux self-adhesive disc. It is 0.3mm thick and allows a quick and efficient fixing to the floor in flat surfaces.



Both discs (metallic and self-adhesive) are manufactured in accordance with ISO Norm 16069 (Low Location Lighting System). They have a polycarbonate protective coating and anti-slippery properties, which guarantee a high resistance to wear and

tear even in places with high traffic. Everlux discs ensure the most diverse types of use to increase the safety of workers and premises. ●



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